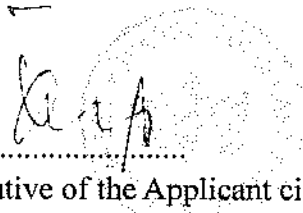




World Tourism Cities Federation

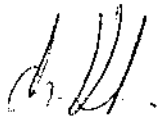
Application for Membership of World Tourism Cities Federation

Budapest voluntarily joins the proposed World Tourism Cities Federation (WTCF) and becomes one of its members.

Signed: 
Chief Executive of the Applicant city

The signature is written in cursive over a circular dotted stamp. The stamp contains the text 'WORLD TOURISM CITIES FEDERATION' around the perimeter and 'SECRETARY GENERAL' in the center.

Date 01 Month 06 Year 2012

A handwritten signature in cursive, appearing to be 'A. V.', located in the bottom right corner of the page.



World Tourism Cities Federation

Relevant Information about the Applicant

Country: Hungary

Website: <http://www.budapest.hu>

Full name of the applicant: Budapest

Contact: Group for International Relations

Postcode: H - 1052

Telephone: +36 1 327 1075

Fax: +36 1 327 1807

Address: Str. Városház No. 9-11.

Postbox: H-1840 Budapest

Brief account of the city (within 300 words):

Budapest, the capital of Hungary is situated in Middle-East Europe by the banks of the river Danube. Its territory is 525 km², the number of inhabitants is 1,7 million. It is the seat of the most important administrative, commercial, financial, banking, cultural, arts and educational institutions. Owing to its central location, Budapest is also a logistics base with international air-, rail-, river-, and road-junction with guests' terminals.

The service sector, especially tourism and hospitality industry, is the most determining in the economy. Budapest is an internationally popular tourist destination, ranked as "Europe's 7th most idyllic place to live" by Forbes, and as the 9th most beautiful city in the world by the Ultimate City Guides, thanks partly to the sights evoking the ages of history, the multifaceted cultural and arts programs, the sports, leisure, recreational and curative activities and partly to the high-level touristic infrastructure (accommodation places, restaurants, cafés, business and conference facilities, wellness and curative centres), all matched with the residents' hospitality. There are yearly 2,7 million registered guests at accommodation places, mostly in the 18 200 hotel rooms, the number of guest nights is 6,330 million. The number of one-day visitors is much higher: over 6,0 million. (Central Statistics Office, 2011.)

Among the **touristic attractions the sights**, like the World Heritage places (the Danube band with its marvellous panorama, the Buda Castle Quarter, the Andrassy Avenue, the Heroes' Square, the Millennium Underground, the Parliament – which is the 3rd biggest one in the world -), churches, cathedrals (the Basilica, Matthias Church and Europe's largest Synagogue, giving home for different religions), buildings of classical and Art Nouveau styles, **and the large-scale of cultural, arts, historical and scientific programs** of international character in the theatres, museums, concert halls and scientific centres **are of particular importance**. Applied- and fine-arts masterpieces of world and national artists, Hungarian folklore, memories of the city's history can be found in about 40 museums and galleries. Besides, there are more and more exhibition halls presenting the works of modern arts. The cultural programs from traditional theatrical plays, classical concerts, operas to the most modern music events, performances offer amusement to people of all **ages and interests**. Various open-air concerts, multi-cultural and gastronomic festivals make the city's life more vivid. Budapest is the only capital in the world which has thermal baths. The extended thermal water cave system under the city grounds for curative and recreational tourism. Tourists can taste the dishes and drinks both of the popular Hungarian and international cuisine in about a thousand restaurants.

Notes:

1, Please send the application to WTCF as soon as possible. Those who fax the application form or mail back a scanned copy of the application form to the preparatory group of WTCF will be entitled to the rights of the first batch of members.

2, Ways of contact with WTCF preparatory group:

Tel: + (86)10-65276629

Fax: + (86)10-65280923

Email: wtcf_gn@bjta.gov.cn

Contact person: Ms. Sophie Zhang

(86)- 135-8195-2202